

July 26, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: Brent Clayton, Chief  
Environmental Technical Support Branch  
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews  
Office of New Reactors

FROM: James E. Lyons, Director */RA/*  
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews  
Office of New Reactors

SUBJECT: TRANSMITTAL OF PROPOSED REVISION TO  
ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARD REVIEW PLAN NUREG-1555  
REV 1 OF SECTION 9.4.3

The purpose of this memorandum is to transmit the proposed revisions to NUREG-1555, Environmental Standard Review Plan (ESRP), Section 9.4.3, Rev. 1, "Transmission System." These documents are technically complete, reformatted following the guidelines in LIC-200, "Standard Review Plan Process," and are designated "publically available."

The present revisions update the versions of these documents that were published in March 2000. The revised portions of the ESRP Sections have been highlighted to aid in identifying the technical information that has been added or revised.

In addition, these revisions have been administratively updated using the guidance in NRR Office Instruction, LIC-200. The administrative update is comprised of assigning the review responsibilities by function, with the responsible organizations maintained separately from the ESRP itself to minimize impacts of office reorganizations, and editorial and formatting changes.

The technical changes that the staff is proposing are summarized in change description lists which are included in the background section with a redline strikeout copy of each ESRP section. There were also changes to each of the ESRP sections updating the list of applicable regulations and acceptance criteria.

CONTACT: Andrew Kugler, NRO/DSER/RAP2  
301-415-2828

Most of the changes to section 9.4.3 are clarifications. More substantive changes include: 1) deletion of information pertaining to transmission system design or construction, 2) addition of a more detailed description of the transmission system owner and operator, 3) addition of wetlands and critical habitats to be considered under alternative corridor routes, 4) deletion of references to review based on factors not characterized by compliance with industry and regulatory standards under economic factors, 5) deletion pertaining to evaluations under alternative transmission systems, 6) deletion of bullets pertaining to the definition of environmental equivalence and environmental inferiority.

This memo and its enclosures will be made publicly available as a preliminary ESRP section revision. It will be formally published following reconciliation against the ongoing Part 52 rule-makings and regulatory guide updates, including the planned update to RG 4.2, "Preparation of Environmental Reports for Nuclear Power Stations." After formal issuance, the ESRP will be available for public comment. Comment resolution will be addressed in subsequent ESRP revisions. Prior to revision to individual sections, comment resolution may establish a basis for how alternatives to the NUREG-1555 acceptance criteria provide an acceptable method of complying with the NRC's regulations.

For questions concerning these documents, please contact Andy Kugler at 301-415-2828.

Enclosures: As stated

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